

FOR RELEASE: 24th AUGUST 2021

Research launched to investigate young women's perceptions and understanding of domestic abuse and existing support services

A new survey has today been launched by Young Women Rise, a research and digital campaign group led by 10 empowered diverse young women from across Scotland supported by Scottish Women's Aid and YWCA Scotland – The Young Women's Movement. This group have come together to research young women's experiences of unhealthy relationships, domestic abuse and access to support. This survey will gather data on young women's perceptions, awareness and understanding about domestic abuse, unhealthy relationships and existing support structures. The data will help Scottish Women's Aid better understand young women's experiences and support needs. The survey will be followed by focus groups later this year.

This survey is open to girls and women living in Scotland aged 12 – 25 until 5th October 2021 and can be accessed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/youngwomenrise>

Dr. Marsha Scott, Chief Executive of Scottish Women's Aid said:

"We at Scottish Women's Aid are truly inspired by this group of young women across Scotland doing some vital work in researching young women's experiences of domestic abuse and accessing support. We aspire to provide excellent support and services to survivors, so we look forward to learning from them and all the young women and girls who fill out the survey."

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Scottish Women's Aid is the lead organisation in Scotland working towards the prevention of domestic abuse. They play a vital role coordinating, influencing and campaigning for effective responses to domestic abuse. They work with a network of specialist local Women's Aid groups towards a shared vision of a Scotland where domestic abuse is not tolerated. SWA work with police and prosecutors, politicians, the children's sector, other agencies and the public in Scotland. They also run Scotland's 24-hour Domestic Abuse and Forced Marriage Helpline on 0800 027 1234, as well as a webchat at sdafmh.org.uk.

YWCA Scotland – The Young Women's Movement is a feminist organisation and part of a worldwide movement of women leading change. Their vision is a world where every woman can shape her own life journey and fulfil her potential, where the voices of women are heard, respected and celebrated. Their work supports the well-being, development and achievement of women and girls across Scotland through a series of programmes designed to empower them, foster a community and equip the women and girls with life skills they can develop across all aspects of their lives.